

MICHAEL V. O'BRIEN  
CITY MANAGER



CITY OF WORCESTER



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Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications & Energy  
Cable Television Division  
Public Hearing CTV-06

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee regarding proposed revisions to 207 C.M.R. as it relates to local government management of cable television licensing. The City of Worcester strongly opposes proposed revisions to 207 C.M.R. 3.00 and 3.09.

Current laws and regulations have provided a reasonable framework in the licensing process for cable television authorities and cable television providers to negotiate and execute license agreements. The City of Worcester in particular continues to be willing to negotiate fair and reasonable license agreements with providers in a timely manner.

The preservation of this process is integral to designing accountability mechanisms that ensure high quality cable television service, at a reasonable cost to residents. The proposed regulatory changes would weaken the ability of local cable licensing authorities to protect the public's interests by decreasing the amount of time available to municipalities to review, obtain public input, and negotiate license agreements.

Thank you for your consideration and allowing this testimony on behalf of the City of Worcester.

Sincerely,

Michael V. O'Brien  
City Manager